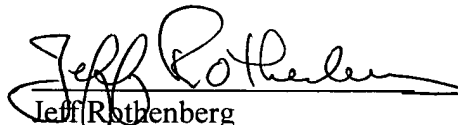


REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, the Abstract is being amended to conform with U.S. practice. Similarly, the original claims are being amended to conform with standard U.S. claim practice. More specifically, all reference numbers are being deleted from the claims, and the claims are being amended to ensure clear antecedent basis. Claim 5 is being further amended to remove a redundancy, and claims 12-15 are being further amended to avoid multiple dependency. The substance of the claims remains unchanged. Claims 1-15 remain in this case.

Favorable consideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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